

All correspondence to:

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For St Bernard &
St Michael's churches

25th OCTOBER 2009
Year B
divine office wk 2

St Michael's Church
Langdown Lawn
Hythe SO45 5GR

St Bernard's Church
Southbourne Avenue,
Holbury, SO45 2NT

PASTORAL TEAM

Priest: Fr David Adams

Deacons: Steve Bowler (8020 7449)

Ian Tobin (8089 7354)

Parish Administrator: Helen Hughson

To contact The Parish Administrator based at St Michael's
call between 9am - 2pm (Mon & Tue only)

PARISH SERVICES**30th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Sun	25	9 am	SB	Mass: 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time	
		11 am	SM	Mass: 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time	
Tue	27	10 am	SM	Mass: Of the Day	
Wed	28	7.30 pm	SM	Evening Prayer & Mass: SS Simon & Jude	
Thur	29	10 am	LT	Mass at Lyndhurst: Of the Day	
Sat	31	10 am	SM	Mass: Our Lady on Saturday followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation (until 11.30 am)	

ALL SAINTS

Sun	1	9 am	SB	Mass: All Saints
		11 am	SM	Mass: All Saints

PRAYER FROM AN HONEST PLACE

Today's Gospel needs to be seen in its broader context. It comes at the end on a section (chps. 7:24 – 10:52) in which Jesus is journeying with his followers outside of Galilee. Jesus is teaching his followers and the journeys outside of familiar territory are symbolic of the spiritual journeys of the followers themselves. Jesus is trying to get them to see things in a new way and from different perspectives, mainly from God's perspective. The followers are constantly getting it wrong, objecting and missing the point. At one stage it seems Jesus is driven to exasperation: "Do you still not understand, still not realize? Are your minds closed? Have you eyes and do not see, ears and do not hear?" (Mark 8:17). Peter's thinking is "not as God thinks but as human beings do" (Mk 8:33) At another point they "did not understand what Jesus said and were afraid to ask" (Mk 9:32).

At the beginning of this section a blind man is healed at Bethsaida, but we do not know his name (Mk 8:22ff). The healing has to be done in two stages. At first the man begins to see dimly. Finally he can see everything plainly and distinctly. Once again the physical healing also expresses the spiritual healing. The disciples are beginning to see in a different way but it is difficult for them. It goes against everything they have been taught and everything they expect.

At the end of this section we have the healing of another blind person. This time we know his name, Bartimaeus. He acknowledges Jesus as "son of David" in other words as the Messiah, the Anointed One of God and he cries out for pity. He refuses to be discouraged by the crowd who tell him to keep quiet. There are also some other interesting features of his story. He is at Jericho, which is near the Dead Sea, geographically it is a low place. Bartimaeus is a blind beggar. Socially you couldn't get much lower. The only thing he possesses is his cloak which he *throws off* in his desire to meet Jesus. He responds to the call of Jesus. Jesus asks him "What do you want me to do for you?" (Jesus will ask us the same question too. What would our answer be?). Bartimaeus replies: "Master, let me see again." Jesus acknowledges his faith and restores his sight. Bartimaeus then follows him along the way. The first disciples of Jesus were called "followers of the Way". So Bartimaeus becomes a kind of model disciple.

When we begin to let go of all pretensions and all claims to power and privilege; when we begin to realize that as far as the things of God go, we are blind and totally destitute, then we are ready to learn from our Master, our Teacher, Jesus. If we can vocalize our faith in humble prayer and not be discouraged by conflicting voices we can receive the healing of Jesus and be ready to follow him along the Way. (DMA)

For the Ideal Gift visit
Faith, Hope & Charity

8 ST JOHN'S STREET
HYTHE
SOUTHAMPTON
SO45 6DA
Tel: 80207882



This week we will be offering Masses for:

People of the Parish, Parishioners who are unwell,
Lily & Eric Allen RIP Anniv., Seamus Brannigan RIP
(Anniv), Kathleen Geoghegan RIP, Elsie Horrill RIP
Anniv., Gabor Marek RIP, John Murphy RIP, Lady
Price RIP Anniv,

*Next week (1st November) we will be offering
Masses for:* Peter Mulvenney RIP Anniv., Dot
Manghan RIP

Total Roof Fund collected to date

£7398.86

(Target - £13500)

**Thank you all, for your continued
generosity**

Information & Notices:

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please keep in your prayers: Iris Bolton, Nigel Bolton, Kath Breen, Anne Candrl, Petra Daniels, Dave Donoghoe, Ruth Freemantle, Pat Gallanagh, Trixie Johnson, Stuart King, Jane McClatchey, Irene Mitchell, Joan Olden, Bridget Reeves, Jack Smith. (If you wish someone to be included for prayers here please give their name to Fr David.)

MASS COUNTS: These are taken at all the Sunday Masses during October for Diocesan statistics.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents of baptised children who are in Yr 3 at primary school please contact Fr David if you wish your child to make their 1st Holy Communion next year. The child must be supported in their preparation by at least one Catholic parent.

CLIMATE JUSTICE: URGENT ACTION NEEDED BY ALL - 2009 is a crucial year for a global Climate Change Agreement. **What YOU can do:** Join Climate Justice Mass Mobilisation in London on 5th December: THE WAVE: Archbishop Vincent Nichols and Archbishop of Canterbury are among speakers. More information on <http://www.cafod.org.uk/copenhagen>. Copies of article by Cardinal Keith O'Brien in the porch.

The Christ we are, The Christ we share. This is an opportunity for people involved in ministry in the Church, from across the diocese, to deepen our experience of the person of Jesus and to consider how we share that experience with others. We will approach the theme through input, practical sessions, prayer, reflection, liturgy and conversations. Although this inspirational and nourishing weekend at the Hallmark Hotel in Bournemouth takes place in January (supper on Fri 22nd - 2pm on Sun 24th), bookings need to be confirmed **by mid-October** to ensure we have the rooms we need in the hotel. Sign up now to be sure of a place! For further details and online booking, see https://clarahost.clara.net/forms.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/the_christ_we_are/the_christ_we_are.php For Enquiries ring 01329-835583.

Remembrance Sunday 8th November Traditionally Remembrance Sunday is a day to remember all those killed or injured in conflicts around the world. On Remembrance Sunday this year, we will *also* be remembering all our friends and relatives who have died. When you come into the **11a.m. Mass at St Michael's** please write the names of your loved ones on the paper provided and put it in the basket. The basket of names will be taken up in the offertory procession.

CONFIRMATION GROUP COLLECTION - Thanks must go to Jonathon O'Brien and the young people of the Confirmation Group for their collection of £45 for CAFOD.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: During half-term 25th Oct & 1st Nov there will be no sessions for the children. We will start again on 8th Nov at 9am Mass as usual. Also help required for Children's Liturgy at 9am Mass at St Bernard's. If you would be willing to give Clare and Hilary a hand in leading the sessions, we'd love to hear from you. Call Hilary on 023 8084 3173.

LADIES NIGHT AT ST BERNARD'S HALL: next Wednesday, 28th October 7pm until 9pm. Various stalls—craft, beauty, jewellery, cards, jams, home made cakes etc. Admission free. Light refreshments on sale. All welcome.

QUIET DAY for People who have suffered significant loss or bereavement: Saturday, 7th November, 10.30-4pm (Coffee from 10am) Wisdom House, Romsey SO51 8EL. A day for anyone who would like space and time to look at some of the things they may be feeling about a particular loss in their lives – whether 1 year ago or 10. You will be free to take things at your own pace – and listening ears will be on hand if you would find that helpful. Refreshments will be available throughout the day with a light lunch and home-made cakes before departure. An offering of £15 is requested to cover costs – but the day is open to anyone regardless of ability to make an offering at this time. Please contact Wisdom House for more information or to book a place on the day (this will help with catering). Telephone: 01794 830206 or e-mail: reception@wisdomhouseromsey.org.uk

PATTERNS OF LIFE - Look out for this book of inspiring poems and prayers written and published by Anne Candrl, a parishioner, to raise money for the CLIC Sargent (cancer) charity. Price £5. Available in Church porch and at the Parish Shop.

ADVISOR FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE - re-advertised - Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickham, Hants are looking for a committed Catholic who will continue the work of promoting and supporting the 'Celebrating Family' initiative in the diocese. This post is for two years and the successful applicant will have a degree in Theology or a closely related subject. Salary £18,000 for a 21 hour week. Application packs from Eileen Stephenson (estephenson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Tel 01329 835583. Closing date Fri 30th Oct. Interviews: 12th Nov.